

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 241035Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4297

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0128

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, LU

SUBJ: THORN CANDIDACY FOR UNGA PRESIDENCY

REF: STATE 40601

1. WITH PRIME MINISTER THORN OUT OF THE COUNTRY, CHARGE  
CONVEYED CONTENTS OF REFTEL TO MFA SECRETARY GENERAL  
PIERRE WURTH ON FEBRUARY 24. WURTH SAID THAT HE WOULD  
PASS SUBSTANCE TO THORN WHO WOULD BE PLEASED AT PROSPECT  
OF EVENTUAL USG SUPPORT FOR HIS CANDIDACY. WURTH ADDED  
THAT HMG WAS STILL WRESTLING WITH THE PROBLEM OF ITS  
PRIOR FIRM COMMITMENT TO AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER  
WILLESEE. PREVIOUS DUTCH SUPPORT FOR WILLESEE HAD BEEN  
CONDITIONAL ON AN EC CONSENSUS, AND WAS THEREFORE WITH-  
DRAWN WHEN THE EC DECIDED TO ENDORSE THORN. HOWEVER,  
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BRITISH SUPPORT HAD BEEN UNCONDITIONAL, AND WURTH DES-

CRIBED BRITISH EMBARRASSMENT AS HIGHLY IRRITATING TO LUXEMBOURG AND THE OTHER EC STATES WHICH ARE CRITICAL OF LONDON FOR "NOT REMEMBERING" THE PREVIOUS AUSTRALIAN UNGA PRESIDENCY AND NOT CHECKING WITHIN THE EC BEFORE SUPPORTING WILLESEE.

2. IF THORN IS THE WEO CANDIDATE, WURTH SAID THAT IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO RECEIVE USG VIEWS ON THE FUTURE WORKINGS OF THE UN IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. THORN IS SETTING UP A SMALL BRAIN TRUST IN THE MFA TO STAFF HIS WORK AS PRESIDENT OF BOTH THE UNGA AND EUROPEAN COUNCIL OVER THE NEXT EIGHTEEN MONTHS, AND WILL ALSO BE GUIDED BY THE RESULTS OF THE CURRENT EC STUDIES OF THE UN WHICH WURTH EXPECTS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE EC COUNCIL OR EUROPEAN COUNCIL LATE THIS SPRING. HOWEVER, THORN IS READY TO BEGIN SERIOUS PLANNING FOR HIS UNGA PRESIDENCY RIGHT AFTER HE RECEIVES THE WEO ENDORSEMENT, AND WURTH URGED US TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S RECEPTIVITY. WURTH OBSERVED THAT USG COUNSELING COULD HAVE A CONSIDERABLE EFFECT ON THORN'S OUTLOOK DURING THE UNGA PRESIDENCY IF WE COULD BEGIN BRIEFING THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS SENIOR STAFF SHORTLY.

3. COMMENT: IF THORN RECEIVES WEO ENDORSEMENT, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND USUN SUPPLY THE EMBASSY WITH USG VIEWS ON KEY UN ISSUES AND ORGANIZATION QUESTIONS THAT CAN BE PASSED ON TO THORN, HIS BRAIN TRUST AND SENIOR MFA STAFF. RESPONDING NOW TO THE GOL'S LONG-STANDING EAGERNESS FOR BILATERAL CONSULTATION COULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE ON THORN'S HANDLING OF ISSUES OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO THE USG DURING THE UNGA. TARNOFF

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